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S. S. STEWART'S JOURNAL

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WISDOM IN A NUTSHELL.

BY OUR NEW CONTRIBUTOR.

Every beginner in music, as a general rule, purchases a cheap instrument at first. How many cheap "fiddles." cornets, guitars etc., there are manufactured every year, and what becomes of them all?

If you will tell me what becomes of all the pins I will perhaps tell you what becomes of all the cheap "tub" banjos that are manufactured in the United States each year.

Every beginner, or nearly every one, purchases a cheap instrument to learn on, on the principle that a penny saved is a penny earned, as old Bob Veal remarked when he turned his celluloid cuffs.

Show me the man who plays on a cheap "tub" banjo, and I will show you the man who inflicts upon the nation such tortures as incline one to the conclusion that Hell has no fury that would pay a man to avoid if he had to remain in this world and sleep in a room adjoining one of these "champion" Banjo Knockers.

As Jacob Coombs used frequently to remark when he addressed the audience on Crowsfoot Hill, "I would rather be the King Pin of a Dung Hill than stand at the gates of Paradise and be refused admittance." This language may be a little too slick for some of our readers, but truth is truth and great truths are dearly bought.

"R. There!"—banjos in Heaven? little boy once asked of his Sunday-school Teacher. This was a corker; the Sundayschool Teacher had no wisdom that would apply to the case. Thus it is that children sometimes astonish older heads with startling questions which require much thinking to get around.

A very dear friend of mine, a young lady, not long ago purchased a "splendid banjo" shop. She wanted to save the balance of her spending money for gloves and a new hair switch, and so she had only seven dollars to invest in a banjo. Now the banjo did not turn out cheap, but she had the satisfaction of buying her experience cheap. A seven dollar banjo is not much to buy at one time dollar banjo is not much to buy at one time and to save the balance of her spending money for gloves and a new hair switch, and so she had only seven dollars to invest in a banjo. Now the banjo did not turn out cheap, but she had the satisfaction of buying her experience cheap. A seven dollar banjo is not much to buy at one time and the strings are shorter, there is a vast difference, the tone not being liable to be clanky as in a banjo.

but a seven dollar experience is a great article. After taking a few doses of the "tub" banjo, she concluded to keep the article for a bath room, and purchase a good instrument. In this she was wise-for to be wise in need, is to be wise in deed, and indeed she was wise in need.

How beautiful is the ear of the Ass who uses steel strings on a banjo. How refined and transcendent are the whispers of sound produced by these telephone wires. How grand are the muscles which are grown upon the ends of the fingers used to manipulate such tone pictures. Allow one of these strings to rust a little and you have a knife that will cut off a finger as readily as a surgeon's scalpel. The flexibility of a steel wire string on a banjo, is such that few who have used them live many years after.

Genuine Italian strings are the only string fit for a Banjo Artist to use. Genuine Italian strings are manufactured in Germany, but there are some cheap imitations made in Italy, which all Banjo Artists should take care to avoid. The best Italian strings are made of horse hide, soaked in cod liver oil, taking care not to boil to a greater intensity than

I have often wondered who was the greatest; the man who composed the comic banjo songs of the nation, or the man who wrote Beautiful Snow. The more I ponder on this question the more I get confused. Perhaps some of the Journal readers can tell us.

I notice that the pawn shops have all gone into the banjo business. They are selling the thirty-eight bracket banjo." It is verily a "tub on wheels," as the man said when he skated into a tub of dirty water.

Some enterprising fakir of banjos has gone into the business on the same plan that Beatty went into the organ business. But "every one must suit his own taste," as the old woman said when she kissed the cow. These banjos which are gotten up to sell to such inexperienced persons as do not know anything about a banjo, will sell to such the same as the cheap fancy imported rosewood guitars sell to inexperienced guitar players. One man's experience is no good for another man; every one has to buy his own. Second hand experience is a drug on the market.

went to the Springs near Calistoga for relief, but died shortly after his arrival there of typhoid fever.

The deceased had been manager of the musical instrument department of his firm for some time, and was a brother of the junior partner. His death is much regretted by his many friends.

THE NEW ORLEANS P. O.

At New Orleans, it is said that they take their time in dealing out stamps. If a man wants a two cent stamp he can get it by waiting until the stamp clerk wakes up. Mr. Nobles, one of our subscribers, says that he got his last Journal, but it was the first one he had seen for some time, as the Postal authorities have no time to deliver printed matter, they are so tired.

GUITAR NOTES.

There has been quite "a boom" in gultars the past few months, and the Jonrnal is rapidly walking to the front among guitar players. Having worked up the Banjo department to a successful Issue, the Journal will now give more attention to the gultar and endeavor to meet the requirements of banjo and guitar players.

Fred. O. Oehler, teacher of guitar, in Mt. Vernon, N. Y., who is one of our contributors, sends the Journal several new subscribers. Ho savs "1 shall try to get you as many subscribers as I possibly can, although I shall not work for either of your premiums. All I do for the Journal 1 simply do to help along a good work."

Fr. Sulzner, of Palatka, Fla., is a guitar player and teacher of long experience. He says the Guitar Neck Banjo is a great success for guitar players.

The members of the Oehler Quartette arc, E. W. Trahand, E. Hagman, L. Hinkelbein and F. O. Oehler, Leader. Mr. F. Braentigam also plays zither with the Quartette.

Emil Herbruger, is on his farm in Egg Harbor, N. J.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

INFORMATION FOR LEARNERS.

STRING BREAKER.—Gut strings may break easily as you say, but there is as little sense in using wire strings in their stead for that reason as there would be in trying to wear iron pants because your pants wear out so soon in the knees.

STRINGS.—Steel strings will be a good thing for you to take on the water in your yacht. If you use them on your banjo they will rust and produce beautiful blisters on your fingers; but you can use them to splice your anchor chain witbout fear of being a "Ham."

JAKE wants to know who is the "coming" player on the banjo. That is a hard question to answer—there are so many "coming players," each one considering himself the best of the lot. We can tell much better which is the "going player."

INQUIRER.—You will break more strings in summer than in winter. Practice is the best way to "limber up" your fingers.

TEACHER.—After you insert your two line card in Teachers' column for one year we cannot change the wording or address until the year has expired. Such advertisements are more trouble than profit.

DOUBTFUL.—The only sure way to become a good banjo player is to study music. You can learn to play after a fashion without music, but the short hand system is intended only for those who do not desire to become

A correspondent in California signing his communication "T," writes as follows: "I would advi-e you in a friendly way, to avoid sending to your correspondents any of your old circulars, as they contain statements which are liable to cause you considerable trouble"

If our most enlightened correspondent would condescend to inform us what he means by the foregoing communication, we would perhaps thank him for his great kindness in advising us free of charge. As he leaves us entirely in the dark as to which "old circulars" he reters to and fails to warn us of the particular kind of trouble we shall escape by following his advice, we are necessarily compelled to politely request him to hold his friendly advice to himself. Lawyers are plenty in Philadelphia.
What we have we litten we have written. Our triendly adviser should learn the old saying, "Offered services always smell."

JOHN .- Maple is the best wood for banjo or violin



W. H. Murphy, of Manchester, Eng., has a large class of pupils on the banjo and guitar.

F. W. Willoughby, of New Haven., Conn, has made a success as a banjo teacher, he bas a number of Yale College Pupils.

Harry J. Isbell is teaching in St. Louis, Mo., where he is a great favorite with his puplls.

Mr. & Mrs. John T. Binns have a large class of pupils in Memphis, Tenn.

Samuel Payne, of London, Eng , is doing well with his banjo teaching.

Thomas J. Armstrong, of Philada., has had a large addition to his pupils this season, and has added to his reputation as a composer of banjo music.

 ${\bf J}.~{\bf E}.~{\bf Henning},$ of Chicago, is working up quite a business.

William A. Huntley, on account of being ill with Malaria, was obliged to cancel several of his engagements.

Edward Clark, "The High Kicker," has gone to Europe.

E. M. Hall is still meeting with his usual success in his great banjo act.

C. R. Groff, Esq., of St. Paul, Minn., is one of the leading Amateurs of that city.

W. I. Pratt, of Iowa City, taught a good many ladies and gentlemen how to pick the banjo.

George Draeger, of Washington, D. C., seems to be a successful teacher.

Burt Spencer, of Louisville, bought two 10-inch banjos recently, for song and dance act.

H. W. Tucker is in Sanford, Fla., sucking oranges.

George H. Ayer, of Springfield, Mass.. is still advancing in the art of banjo teaching and playing.

Charles Schofield may be called the "Prince of Banjo Players."

C. A. Maskell, of Grand Rapids, has made a grand stride towards rapid execution of chromatic passages.

Morton McDonald, of Columbus, U., is one of nature's noblemen.

J. A. Manning. Esq., of the Crystal Palace Mills, Troy, N. Y., takes much pride in his Stewart Banjós.

Russell Fuller, of Ploche, Nev., is one of the Amateur players in that section.

Jacob Coombs lately presented the Academy of Curious Sciences with the gravestone on which the old Jewish Commandments were carved.

J. N. Vanderhoof, of Belleville, Ill., is the best player

Charles F. McLean, of Buffalo, is a gentleman who does credit to the banjo. He has read the adventures of Jacob Coombs, as related in the Black Hercules, and had a private copy bound in morocco for his library.

Dr. H. C. Smith, of Dayton, Ohio, not only teaches the banjo, but can dissect a corn.

A. Nicholson, of St. Louis, is a young gentleman who appreciates a good banjo.

E. H. Hulse, of Buffalo, N. Y., still continues to successfully teach the banjo and cornet.

J. A. Alllson, of Morrisburg, Canada, and his friend S. Swan, are the "Two Lilites" that float gracefully, each having a banjo in full bloom.

T. F. Southworth, of Linn, Mass., is teaching banjo with considerable success.

Pat. Shortis had a new 13-inch Rim Banjo, made by tewart, recently.

Charles Brickman, of Holyoke, Mass., is a gentleman of taste and llkes a good banjo.

Nathan Francis is no relation to Francis Nathan the miser.

kanous A. Smlth, of Pittsfield, Mass, loves his \$60 Stewart Banjo like a brother.

Frank H. Erd, (who has a name which is short and sweet) is the great banjoist of East Saglnaw, Mich.

George Powers is sald to "beat the bugs," as a billiard player.

Ruby Brooks likes lemonade without any cream.

Lew Simmons has again tackled the base ball season.

E. E. Petit, of Chopin, La., picks the banjo like a little

 ${\bf F.~B.~Crittenden,~Esq.,}$ of Rochester, N. Y., will take his banjo on a summer vacation.

Steve B. Fraser, of Gad's Hill, says he don't want any simple method pills. Stephen knows which way the wind blows.

Spaf. Atkinson will play the banjo and cornet for the "Doctor." this summer.

C. H. Wright, Esq., of St. Paul, is getting up a collection of banjos, but does not want every banjo maker in the country to send him cats, merely on that account.

Prof. Edmund Clark, of New York, is not married yet.

It has lately been discovered that Shakespeare dld not write Shakespeare, but Shakespeare is nothing more than a big nothing on wheels. Now it somebody will discover what has become of the Dobson Unissed Back Banjo, he will confer a layor on humanity, and Mr. Fairbanks will grant him honorable mention in his Prize Essay on Man.

Goldby & Shepard, of Paterson, N. J., have hired the bank building for a ban $50\,$ hall.

Harry Stanwood teaches banjo in Cobourg, Canada.

John H. Parker says the *Journal* is as good as a glass of the best wine ever tasted with a good square meal.

W. G. Collins, of Washington, D. C., plays the banjo at the White House once in a while.

H. H. Beyer, teacher of banjo, of Brooklyn, N. Y., sends several fancy eards, for which the Journal sends its love in return.

F. B. Converse, "the autocratic joist," is gettir g along

"Wait till the clouds roll by, Jimmy," said the baboon as he quletly wiped away the perspiration caused by the impression of a tomato, and Mr. Huntley, having nothing better to do stood there and laughed.

Frank Eckland has been monkeying with the skating rinks.

Emery Davidson, of St. Clair, says he would take the Journal, only the skating rinks took all his money.

A great many banjo players who are sadly deficient in A great many banjo players who are sadly dencient in the first principles of music, have taken to writing banjo music, and a good deal of this music is like the plays written by school boys, who, after witnessing a performance, have become stage struck and thought they would become great dramatists.

J. Frank Forbes, of Red Willow County, Nebraska, is a good banjo player, a good telegraph operator, and a good man on general principles.

G. L. Lansing, of Bostor, is leading a banjo quartette.

C. S. Patty, the poet, has a class of banjo students in Winch-ster, Indlana.

Clarence Burton died in Frie, Pa., on April 12th, last.

Prof. J. C. Bane was recently charged with giving "banjo and guitar solo recitals" in Canton, Ohio, iy the "new simplified method." It is alleged that he guaranteed to teach all the different keys in eight lessons. As this is equal to one and one-half keys to each lesson, it is thought that only a monkey could "eaten on" to them.

Farcy a simplified method worker composing music. If a man wants to compose music he should study composition.

George L. Lansing, of Boston, writes us that his quartette is playing most of Stewart's music and Huntley's Fireman's quick step.

There are a great many manufacturers of "American Banjos" in E. gland. The banjo as a musical instrument in that Country is doomed. These abortions have sprung up all over and cause people to thluk there is no music in a banjo.

Columbus, Ohio, April 2112,

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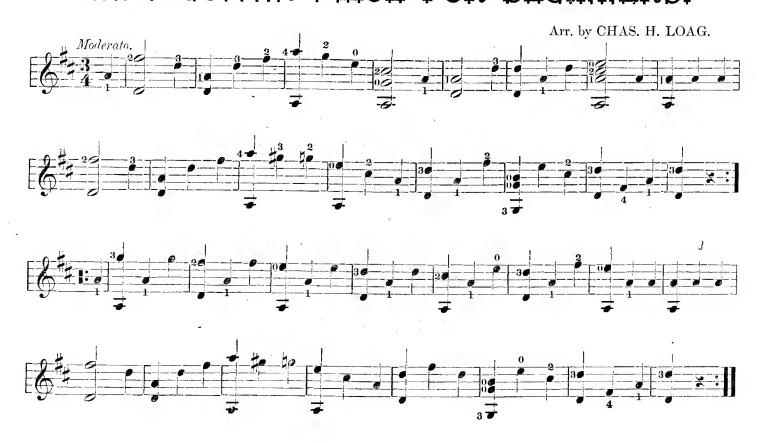
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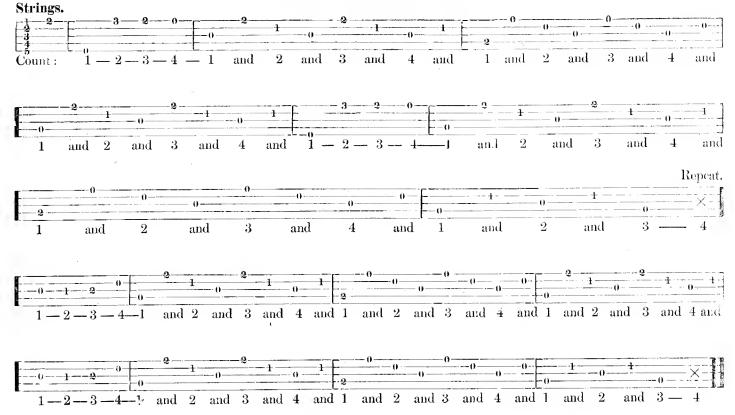
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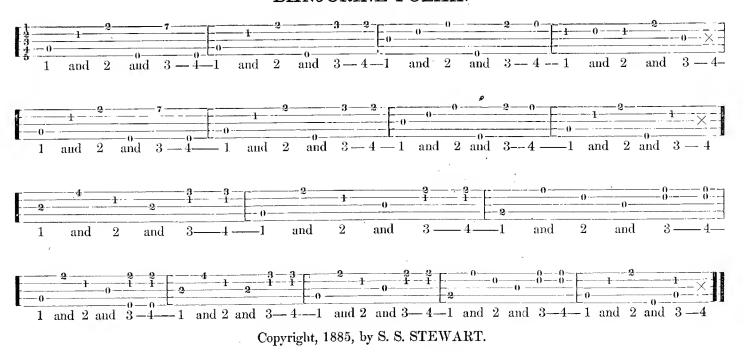
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(For full explanations see Sheets Nos. 1 and 2.)

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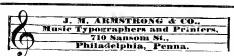
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TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

H. W. Tucker has returned from Florida, and is at his home in Camden, N. J.

F. A. Kilber, advertises McCord's Patent Tailpiece for banjos, in this issue.

Prof. Louis Lemberg, one of the Original "Spanish Students," will give lessons on the guitar. His address in the city, is No. 1012 Wallace street.

The Cream of Roses Schottische, for the banjo and piano, is destined to become very popular among banjo players. It is not a very difficult composition, nor can it be called, by any means, an easy tune.

We expect in our next issue, to begin the publication of lessons in Chord Construction, with illustrations, by John H. Lee.

Gus. Taylor, "Classic Banjoist," of New Orleans, writes that he has twenty-two pupils.

A. Baur is in Pittsburgh, Penna.

Harry Shirley, of San Francisco, has been in such poor health, that he has been obliged to retire to a farm for rest.

W. M. Jameson, Esq., of Boston is a fancier of fine banjos.

Thomas J. Armstrong, of Philadelphia, is kept busy arranging banjo music for various music houses.

President Cleveland has no time at present to practice on his banjo.

F. B. Crittenden, of Rochester, likes music much better than the law.

Wm. A. Huntley will leave Providence for New York City, shortly. William likes to see life.

VALUABLE PROVERBS.

When the house is roofed in, the grave

Squeeze the orange too much and the juice gets bitter.

Where the bee gets honey the spider draws

The secret of two, is a good secret; the secret of three, is nobody's secret.

Every hair has its shadow.

Bad news is always true.

No jest is so hard as the true jest.

The lion is not always so brave as they tell

Time cures the sick man, and the Doctor says: "you're well."

Never leave for "to-morrow," what can as well be done "to-day."

The bath has no power to whiten the

THOUGHTS.

Do not indulge in loves or hatreds, they discompose the judgment, occupy time, and hinder self advancement.

The world is a place where second-rate people mostly succeed; not fools, nor firstrate people.

Advancement loves the easy, level, wellbeaten path of life.

Originalty of character may be harmful; eccentricity of conduct may be injurious; but peculiarity in dress or demeanor is most likely to be prejudicial to the man who would rise in the world.

Human affairs are provided for from day

The man who sees too widely, is nearly sure to be indecisive, or to appear so.

Nothing is certain to happen but the un-

Remember that to make progress in advancement, you must know how, and when. to wait. There are occasions in life in which every move will be a bad one.

Be modest in speech about your own merits, but not in demands for criticism from judges.

Be industrious, hard, prompt, self-sufficing, frank, and somewhat unrefined; without some refinement, you might be deficient in tact—but take "push" for a motto.

Plato says: that the last garment which a pure man puts off, is the love of fame.

Thinkers are more numerous than thoughts; yet of the former, how few.